American City & County

public works engineering and management

NOVEMBER 1980

11/18/80 C 6185-1 U

LOW PRESSURE AIR TESTING: HOW TIGHT A SEWER SPEC?

PUBLIC WORKS GARAGES CAN BE GOOD NEIGHBORS

TOUGH SNOWPLOW BLADES THAT SAVE BIG BUCKS

RESOURCE RECOVERY:

What type of organization is needed to make it work?

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ompany, a subsidiary of Morgan-Grampian, Inc.,
rkshire Common, Pittsfield, MA 01201. Controlled
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stmaster: Send Form 3579 to Circulation Man-
er, AMERICAN CITY & COUNTY, Berkshire
mmon, Pittsfield, MA 01201.

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orks officials and engineers and consulting en-
neers in the U.S. Subscription rates to others: $20
the U.S. and $40 in all other countries. Single
pies $3.00 in the U.S.; $4.50 in all other countries.
e publisher reserves the right to accept or reject
y subscription. Send changes of address to Circu-
tion Manager, AMERICAN CITY & COUNTY, Berk-
ire Common, Pittsfield, MA 01201.

prints: Reprints of individual articles are available
rough the Production Manager, AMERICAN CITY
COUNTY, Berkshire Common, Pittsfield, MA
201. Microfilm copies of complete issues or repro-
ctions of individual articles from microfilm prints
n be obtained from Xerox University Microfilms,
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On the cover: *This ten-foot-long, three-foot-diameter trommel screen is operated by the National Center for Resource Recovery under a U.S. Department of Energy contract intended to improve waste separation processes by examining such variables as trommel rotational speed and slope. Important as hardware considerations are, they are secondary to achieving a local organizational structure that ensures efficient operation of the resource recovery facility. The article on page 39 discusses four different, successful multi-town agreements.*

Municipal Cost Indexes

Cost Index Figures of the Month, showing 30-day[1], 12-month changes (1967=100)

ACC MUNICIPAL COST INDEX 269.3 +0.8% +11.1%

ACC Construction Cost Index	299.7	1.2%	7.1%	Energy: Fuels and Power	695.9	0.6%	30.8%
General Construction Materials	280.2	0.7	5.7	Consumable Supplies	257.9	1.6	16.2
Motorized Equipment	244.8	1.2	12.6	Producer Price Index	249.0	1.0	14.6

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX 249.4 +0.6% +12.8%

Atlanta, Georgia[2]	249.7	Denver, Colorado[1]	265.8	Minneapolis, Minnesota[2]	250.6
Boston, Massachusetts[1]	240.9	Kansas City, Missouri[2]	249.3	New York, New York	240.7
Chicago, Illinois	245.4	Los Angeles, California	250.1	Portland, Oregon[1]	252.2
Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas[2]	257.4	Miami, Florida (11/77 = 100)[1]	134.7	Washington, DC[1]	248.7

CAPITAL EQUIPMENT 241.9 +0.7% +11.7%

Agricultural Machinery & Equip.	258.9	0.6%	11.0%	Internal Combustion Engines	269.3	0.5%	12.5%
Air Conditioners (12/77 = 100)	123.6	0.7	9.8	Motor Trucks	235.2	2.0	15.6
Construction Machinery & Equip.	292.8	0.7	13.3	Office Machines	141.7	0.2[2]	6.1
Electric Motors	252.4	0.1	8.6	Passenger Cars	192.2	1.5	12.1
Elevators and Escalators	243.8	(0.2)	13.6	Photographic Equipment	126.5	0.3	9.1
Fans and Blowers (Ex. Portable)	298.1	1.0	10.3	Pumps, Compressors & Equipment	290.3	0.8	15.6
Fluid Power Equipment	201.2	0.1[2]	14.1	Railroad Equipment	316.4	0[2]	12.6
Generators and Generator Sets	303.7	1.2[2]	27.0	Refrig. Compressors (12/77 = 100)	122.5	0.3[2]	10.6
Heating Equipment	208.0	0.9[2]	10.6	Scales and Balances	214.9	4.0[2]	11.1
Industrial Material Handling Equip.	255.3	0.1[2]	9.5	Switchgear, Switchboard Equip.	230.9	(0.5)	14.0
Integrating & Measuring Inst.	185.8	0.1	8.1				

INDUSTRIAL COMMODITIES 277.3 +0.6% +15.4%

Abrasive Products	256.5	0.2%[2]	14.4%	Lumber	333.5	1.9%	(8.7)%
Agricultural Chemicals	259.6	0.5	21.6	Mixed Fertilizers	241.8	(0.3)	19.4
Apparel	174.8	0.4	8.3	Motor Vehicle Parts	254.4	3.5	11.9
Asphalt Roofing	409.4	(0.6)	25.6	Natural Gas	850.1	0.3[2]	28.2
Building Paper and Board	209.2	(1.2)	16.8	Nonferrous Wire and Cable	215.8	2.4	16.7
Coal	469.0	0.3	3.3	Paint Materials	278.2	0.4	12.2
Commercial Furniture	237.1	0[2]	6.5	Paper	258.8	0.1	12.8
Concrete Products	275.9	0	12.0	Paperboard	238.1	0.3	15.4
Diesel Fuel (2/72 = 100)	705.5	0.9[2]	39.5	Pesticides	375.3	0[2]	8.4
Drugs and Pharmaceuticals	208.8	0.3[2]	7.7	Photographic Supplies	258.2	0	49.8
Electric Lamps/Bulbs	261.7	0.5[2]	9.4	Plastic Constr. Prod. (12/69 = 100)	159.3	1.2	4.0
Electric Power	333.8	0.7	19.7	Plastic Film (12/70 = 100)	195.0	1.8	10.4
Electronic Components	158.2	1.0	15.4	Plumbing Fixtures & Brass Fittings	250.4	0.3	12.6
Fabricated Structural Metal	272.6	0.3	8.1	Plywood	262.3	4.5	3.1
Finished Lubricants	319.6	1.7[2]	29.3	Portland Cement	310.3	(0.1)	8.7
Finished Steel Products	299.5	0	5.6	Prepared Paint	239.1	1.0[2]	16.5
Flat Glass	199.5	2.7[2]	8.4	Protective Clothing (6/78 = 100)	126.0	(0.2)[2]	4.0
Floor Coverings	163.5	0.2	9.0	Refractories	271.4	0.7	12.3
Footwear	233.9	0.4	3.8	Residual Fuel	949.0	0.9	25.6
Footwear, Rubber	216.4	0	4.5	Sand, Gravel & Crushed Stone	235.9	0.2	13.0
Fuel Oil, No. 2 (2/73 = 100)	705.8	0.5	37.7	Sanitary Papers & Health Prod.	335.3	1.1	16.3
Gasoline	651.0	0.4	50.3	Soaps & Synthetic Detergents	219.7	3.2[2]	11.5
Glass Containers	294.6	0	11.1	Sporting Goods	201.0	0.3	13.2
Gypsum Products	251.8	(0.5)	(0.2)	Structural Clay Products	229.8	(0.2)[2]	3.4
Hand Tools	283.0	0.7	13.8	Tires and Tubes	237.0	0	12.0
Hand Tools, Power Driven	194.8	0.5[2]	11.7	Tractor Parts	181.2	0[2]	7.0
Hardware	227.5	0.1[2]	8.5	Transformers & Power Regulators	187.7	2.1[2]	14.9
Industrial Chemicals	329.0	0.4[2]	18.7	Valves & Fittings	291.2	0	12.3
Kerosene (2/73 = 100)	681.4	0.5	40.5	Wiring Devices	271.1	0.8	9.7

1) Thirty-day figures seasonally adjusted, except where noted 2) Not seasonally adjusted City indexes: 1 — updated odd months, 2 — updated even months, all others monthly.